



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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For the week ending August 19, 2012

CORN, HAY, AND TOBACCO HARVEST MAIN FARM ACTIVITIES

Farmers continued harvesting hay and topping tobacco last week between showers and stepped-up their efforts at corn harvest. Activities in the tobacco fields were delayed slightly by rainfall. The crops, except corn, continued to be rated in fair to good condition. The cotton crop is opening and early planted soybeans are beginning to shed leaves. The corn crop is maturing rapidly. Pastures look good for this time of the year but with some reports of weeds.

There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent very short, 19 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 16 percent very short, 33 percent short, 50 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures last week averaged near normal across the state. Rainfall amounts averaged slightly above normal across Middle and West Tennessee, near normal across East Tennessee and slightly below normal for the Plateau.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Dent or Beyond	95	83	73	81	Corn	22	29	30	17	2
Corn – Mature	60	32	18	24	Cotton	2	8	29	54	7
Corn for Grain – Harvested	18	6	1	2	Pastures	8	18	39	31	4
Corn Silage – Harvested	77	71	57	52	Soybeans	4	12	31	45	8
Cotton – Setting Bolls	96	89	97	98	Tobacco	1	6	38	45	10
Cotton – Bolls Opening	10	N/A	4	10						
Soybeans – Setting Pods	89	80	79	83						
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	6	N/A	2	6						
Burley Tobacco – Harvested	29	21	29	21						
Dark Air Cured – Harvested	25	17	36	33						
Dark Fire Cured – Harvested	21	13	37	30						
Tobacco – Topped	84	74	74	75						

N/A = not available

County Agent Comments

“Corn harvest has begun in earnest this week. Earliest I can remember since working in Dyer County beginning in 1992. Hearing of yields ranging from 30 to 150 bushels per acre for dry land corn. Sounding like overall yields might average in 110 to 130 bushel range for 2012. Some showers over last 7 to 10 days and cooler temperatures helping with progress of early planted soybeans. Rains will help wheat beans some but they continue to appear to be the beans that are going to be hurt the most from our prolonged dry conditions over past several weeks. Cotton beginning to open on many acres. Generally, insect pressures in cotton and soybeans continue to remain light but beans need to be watched for worms and stink bugs. Grain sorghum maturing well on good soil conditions but still suffering in stressed areas of fields.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“The farmers in Fayette County received a good and needed rain Thursday night. Earlier in the week temps cooled some. Corn is being harvested and yields are better than expected. Cotton is really starting to open. Beans look good and the recent rains/cooler weather has helped.”

Jeffery Via, Fayette County

“Getting some much needed rain to help fill pods on the soybeans. Plant bugs have been high in cotton fields this week. Corn harvest has begun with some mixed reviews. It all depends on when the corn was planted and if it got the rainfalls. Yields in the county range from 40 to above 200.”

Jake Mallard, Madison County

“The soybean crop has made drastic improvements over the last month. Excess moisture and unseasonable rainfall are now hindering the tobacco harvest and the second cutting of hay.”

Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County

“Black shank has been showing up in numerous tobacco fields that are near harvest. Wind damage to many tobacco fields, from storms in recent weeks, has created problems with sucker control applications. 2nd cutting of hay fields has is underway, much needed since spring yields were lower than normal.”

Paul Hart, Robertson County

“August weather continues with cooler than normal temperatures, with highs in the low to mid 80's and lows in the low to mid 60's. Rains at the beginning and end of the week produced from 1.5 to 2.5 inches of rain depending on location. Strong winds were associated with storms Thursday evening, no crop damage reported. Corn harvest continues to gain momentum with about 25% of the crop shelled, and yields continue to mostly range 70 to 90 bushels. Soybeans are experiencing great weather for pod set and fill, a few very early maturing varieties shedding leaves. Pastures continue to improve with cool nights and moisture encouraging cool season grass growth.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Scattered showers helped to maintain some topsoil moisture. Corn silage harvest and hay harvest were the main field activities. Several producers are anticipating pasture/hay renovation to replace grass stands lost to the drought.”

John Wilson, Blount County

“We are seeing lots of corn smut even on field corn. Soybeans are looking better with recent showers. Lots of Johnsongrass hay is ready to mow as soon as weather forecast allows. Pasture weeds such as ragweed and perilla mint are thriving.”

John Goddard, Loudon County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: August 19, 2012 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending August 19, 2012				Current Week 8/19/12	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	96	61	76	-3	1.39	2	25.59	-8.62	15.09	-5.17
Brownsville_TN	97	64	77	-2	1.20	1	20.42	-13.85	10.18	-10.13
Covington	96	56	75	-4	0.22	1	20.17	-13.28	8.03	-11.56
Dyersburg	97	59	76	-3	0.78	3	17.80	-14.90	8.66	-11.06
Huntingdon_Wate	91	58	74	-3	1.73	4	22.37	-11.83	13.68	-6.60
Jackson_Exp_Stn	98	61	77	-2	2.95	3	26.32	-7.68	15.38	-5.19
Lexington_TN	96	62	75	-3	1.72	2	23.95	-9.29	12.80	-7.09
Martin	97	59	77	0	1.36	3	20.91	-13.63	10.15	-10.98
Memphis_AG	98	60	77	-4	1.95	3	25.39	-8.10	14.34	-5.48
Milan	95	59	75	-2	2.61	3	25.16	-10.00	14.65	-6.72
Paris	93	57	73	-5	0.44	3	20.68	-13.27	10.98	-9.29
Savannah_6SW	94	60	75	-4	1.80	4	30.26	-6.88	17.30	-4.20
Selmer	97	64	76	-1	1.00	4	30.74	-5.81	17.95	-3.18
Union_City	92	52	73	-4	1.62	3	21.74	-11.88	12.14	-8.13
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	93	57	73	-4	1.39	2	20.13	-12.84	10.75	-8.40
Cookeville	87	54	71	-5	0.87	4	35.30	-2.10	20.17	-2.03
Crossville_AP	84	59	71	-2	0.44	4	30.51	-6.43	16.00	-5.74
Dickson_AG	89	60	73	-5	1.98	2	25.74	-9.41	13.94	-7.03
Dover_1W	92	59	73	-3	1.42	2	23.52	-10.66	12.83	-7.28
Fayetteville_TN	89	61	75	-2	2.33	5	33.32	-2.01	18.33	-1.55
Jamestown	84	53	69	-4	0.60	4	35.60	-0.49	19.88	-2.22
Kingston_Spring	92	55	73	-4	1.72	4	29.43	-4.20	18.48	-1.02
Lewisburg	92	50	74	-3	1.43	2	22.85	-13.27	12.16	-9.22
Livingston_WLIV	87	56	71	-4	0.88	4	31.35	-3.51	15.10	-6.09
Lobelville	93	54	73	-4	1.96	3	22.90	-13.60	12.27	-9.07
Murfreesboro_5N	90	58	73	-4	1.24	3	28.14	-6.60	16.03	-4.77
Nashville_Metro	91	62	75	-4	1.42	2	30.16	-1.11	19.11	0.23
Oneida	86	51	70	-3	0.13	2	35.34	-0.91	18.44	-3.79
Portland_TN	88	56	72	-4	1.44	3	29.44	-4.58	17.76	-2.80
Pulaski_Water_P	89	54	73	-6	1.80	3	29.04	-6.83	17.81	-2.49
Shelbyville	90	63	75	-3	1.57	4	28.98	-7.20	15.06	-6.07
Sparta_TN	88	58	73	-3	0.89	3	28.86	-7.42	15.88	-5.68
Springfield	90	56	72	-4	1.70	3	33.95	1.27	22.26	2.61
Springhill	93	56	73	-4	1.85	5	30.27	-5.98	19.18	-2.28
Tullahoma	89	62	75	-2	1.60	4	31.48	-5.78	18.11	-3.01
Waynesboro_TN	92	52	73	-3	2.71	4	31.17	-6.93	19.33	-2.81
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	90	62	77	-2	0.65	3	31.00	-4.06	16.67	-2.49
Cleveland_6NNE	86	58	73	-3	0.53	5	27.69	-8.29	16.12	-4.13
Dayton	87	59	73	-4	0.45	3	34.52	-2.27	20.19	-0.40
Erwin_1W	83	56	70	-3	0.70	4	37.64	4.28	26.94	5.23
Gatlinburg_2SW	82	54	69	-4	0.43	4	41.52	3.26	24.95	0.78
Greeneville	85	56	71	-4	0.54	4	31.88	2.84	20.76	2.53
Kingston_AG	87	60	74	-1	1.81	3	39.78	1.04	24.80	2.31
Knoxville_AP	87	62	75	-2	0.80	4	35.73	3.80	19.94	1.47
Newcomb	85	56	71	-2	0.46	4	36.60	0.35	20.14	-2.09
Norris_4NE	85	55	72	-4	0.05	2	35.56	0.51	19.05	-1.95
Tri-City_RGNL_A	84	57	71	-3	0.34	3	32.41	4.95	21.68	4.70

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

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